

Ascher, Debra

Subject:

FW: FALL TURKEY

-----Original Message-----

From: Brett Johnson [mailto:brett_mjohnson@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 1:43 PM

To: Miller, LouAnn

Subject: Re: FALL TURKEY

Brett Johnson

Rapid City , SD

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Brett Johnson [mailto:brett_mjohnson@yahoo.com]

> Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 1:08 PM

> To: GFP Wild Info

> Subject: FALL TURKEY

>

> Hello,

> As a twenty year turkey hunter and resident of the Black Hills I am writing you out of concern. My concern is regarding the poor and unbalanced turkey population of Western SD and particularly the Black Hills. Turkey hunting is a true passion of mine and I spend considerable time enjoying the resource for myself and with friends and family. The last three years I have noticed an unfortunate pattern. We have experienced heavy snow storms and flooding during the prime nesting season resulting in a poor hatch. This was clearly evident this year with a noticeable decrease in the overall turkey population and dispersal. An even more conclusive indicator is the almost complete lack of juvenile birds. Again , I accompany many close friends and family and this year all our birds taken were older birds , mostly three year olds. The 2015 season was again stricken by a 12 plus inch snow storm. I feel the harvestable surplus of turkeys in the BH is as low as it has been in years ! I propose stopping the fall harvest of hen turkeys. We don't shoot hen pheasants and discourage the taking of hen ducks, why not hen turkeys ? After all most tags sold and the trickle down revenue is connected to the spring hunt were one can experience all the wild turkey has to offer. Protecting hen turkeys equals more turkeys and that is crucial this year. I am not a biologist ,but I do have a constant ,20 year, boots on the ground resident's understanding of our great resource. Stewardship is needed now and that means we have to stop shooting hens . Anyone who appreciates our wildlife can understand that .

>

>

> Concerned hunter

> Brett Johnson

>

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Upcoming meeting.

-----Original Message-----

From: Gary Colbath [mailto:Gary_Colbath@fd.org]

Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 9:38 AM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: Upcoming meeting.

Commissioners,

My name is Gary Colbath and I am a life long resident of SD who has hunted the state for over 30 years. I live in Rapid City and hunt and guide in the Black Hills extensively. Our turkey numbers are devastated and in my estimation (and many others I work with and have talked to) down 60-70%. I spend at least 30 days a season in the field actively spring turkey hunting and then work to monitor the hatch in many areas I hunt. This spring was again tough with all of the rain in the Hills and West river. I would encourage you to eliminate the fall season for the Hills and reduce tags for West River. Virtually no real turkey hunters (and I talk with hundreds each year) hunt turkeys specifically in the fall. A few do but most hunters who hunt the birds pick the tag up incidental to a BH deer tag or if they do not draw but have friends who have a deer tag, they get a turkey tag and accompany their buddy in the field so they can "hunt" too and carry a firearm. The same is often true with West River deer hunters. And because rifles are legal weapons for turkey hunting, many get shot at long distance by deer hunters who are not really turkey hunting but rather just deer hunting with a turkey tag. I bet if you ask turkey hunters, especially those who work hard to hunt the Hills on public ground, they would tell you the dwindling number of birds each spring over the last several years has made hunting very difficult and they would gladly give up fall seasons for a chance to let the birds rebound some.

Thank you for your service and consideration.

Gary Colbath

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Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Comment - Fall turkey hunting season

From: Malone, Mark
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 6:46 AM
To: GFP Wild Info
Subject: Comment - Fall turkey hunting season

Please cancel the Black Hills fall turkey season.

As an extremely avid turkey hunter, I have seen, first hand, the decline in turkey numbers in the last number of years. I hunt a mix of public and private land, of which public is my favorite. This last year was a surprise when numerous "age old" roosting spots didn't even have birds. This spring's snow storm will certainly have a negative impact on this spring's hatch as well.

I understand the expected mortality over the winter and addition to hunter opportunity in the fall, but the numbers are getting too low to be allowing hens to be killed. Even if only a smaller percentage of hens that are killed would have survived, that still means an extra flock or two in a few years for hunters to enjoy.

As avid of a turkey hunter as I am, I would even support lowering the tag numbers in CSP and possibly even the second season in the hills. The poor hatches and already low numbers should be taken into consideration and forcing us to make a decision to cancel the hills fall turkey season this year.

Thanks for your time and efforts.

Mark Malone, P.E.

SD DOT Pierre, SD
Ph: 773-7191

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: turkey season dates proposal

From: Don Wojciechowski [<mailto:don.woj@gmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2015 4:48 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: turkey season dates proposal

Please consider allowing archery turkey beginning at the same time as archery deer (last Saturday Sept). The season date revisions made in 2014 were VERY unfair to archery hunters. Some folks do not rifle hunt and do not wish to archery hunt during rifle seasons (after November 1).

If the above is not possible, I would appreciate the commission documenting the reasoning for rejection.

Donald Wojciechowski
13980 Battlecreek Rd
Hermosa, SD 57744

Ascher, Debra

Subject:

FW: Addition to Unit 2 Goose Season

From: darrel miles [<mailto:madhunter44@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2015 3:34 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: Addition to Unit 2 Goose Season

Great idea Not only will it provide additional days of hunting, But will also provide for the management, of the on going population problem on Canadian geese in this area.. Which as with any city with growth becomes a safety concern for all airline travel also...

I for one have also seen a population increase in not only the Canadian Geese population increase but also the Ducks, Of course most being the Mallard spices but if possible i believe it would also be of best interest to do a similar situation for the duck season in this area....

Many of the last 10 to 15 years i have seen most of the Northern migration showing up in the last few weeks of the season.. Which makes for a very short season if you do enjoy the hunting of Ducks.. And i do know there are many species of Ducks, Teals, woodys, etc etc that do migrate much sooner then the Mallard, Pintails, etc etc..... But if there would be a chance to change and move the start date back to allow it to run until even December 31st in this area i believe it would get support from many waterfowl hunters in this area...

On a side note, i would love for the state to try to provide some land for decoy only use in these areas also..... Maybe not to the scale of the Sheehan area but a few farmers around the area im sure would sign up for a small reward of money..... And yes you would have to produce a small book of the land with location and a parking area the farmer would want us to use, or park at after setting out decoys....And yes we would have to register at the outdoor campus and know if would be a first come first serve for a few 80 acre lots of land say 10 to 15 if you could get enough interest from farmers in the area,.....

As a person that has watched my children grow and on there own now i do know many of my greatest memories, first pheasants shot, first geese and ducks set up on our spreads as the sun is just about to rise, i know that i have lived the dream life and now watch as my children love the outdoors also....

On another side note now if you would just raise the walleye limit to 5 for residents and 3 for out of state people only at the river id be all smiles....., and the reason i say this is as a residence of South Dakota i believe i buy 99 percent of my goods from this state and that is my tax dollars that gos for many things i know But some of the greatest times i have ever had are in a boat or on a shore fishing with my children also... I say the same for hunting,...

And for anyone with children that want to see there children with morals and values, Take your kids fishing, go hunting,. Heck my kids went with me before they could carry a gun, If i was to get a pheasant they would carry it till it got to heavy, Goose hunting at a place near Spring Creek , some State provided pits.... The walk could do one of two things to you from the parking area, Cause a Heart Attack or Make u a contestant on Survivor But my kids were there with me and would beg to go again the minute we got home... As they matured and got girlfriends and boyfriends we invited them also along with there parents many times... Its amazing how they would rather be in bed at 9pm on a friday or saturday night, so they will be up at 5am the next morning.....

So i guess im trying to say thank you to our Great state and gfp for all the great memories your department has provided me and my family

Darrel Miles
Sioux Falls

Ascher, Debra

Subject:

FW:

-----Original Message-----

From: James Stenseth [<mailto:cats41@sio.midco.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 1:12 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject:

If you really want to thin out wildlife around Sioux Falls, shoot off some of the deer around here.

James Stenseth
6409 S, Avalon Ave
SF, SD 57108

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Metro Goose Hunt

From: Gary Townsend [<mailto:gfunktown52@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2015 7:53 AM

To: Miller, LouAnn

Subject: Re: Metro Goose Hunt

Gary Townsend
4908 E Maywood Dr
Sioux Falls, SD 57110
605-310-0613

From: Gary Townsend [<mailto:gfunktown52@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 1:04 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: Metro Goose Hunt

I think you have a very good idea to help control the goose population in Sioux Falls. It's nice to see the creative thinking that your office exhibits.

--

Thank You
Gary Townsend
605-310-0613

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Metro Goose Hunting Unit

From: Dave Gilbert [<mailto:1dlgilbert@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2015 11:56 AM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: Metro Goose Hunting Unit

I am in favor of the proposed 'Metro Goose Hunting Unit' around the City of Sioux Falls.

As a hunter, while I probably won't personally participate, I appreciate an additional opportunity.

As an airplane pilot I recognize the hazard of too many Canadas in the vicinity of the airport.

Dave Gilbert
820 NE 5th St
Madison, SD 57042

1DLGilbert@Gmail.com

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Metro goose proposal

-----Original Message-----

From: Casey Rorvick [<mailto:rorvickc@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2015 6:23 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: Metro goose proposal

I am emailing you in regards to the metro goose hunting proposal. I feel that this proposal should be passed, as the opportunities to hunt geese around the Sioux Falls area through the month January are very abundant. However, if this proposal is passed, I feel the game and fish will need to address the issue of birds staying put in fields within city limits, and also using fields where landowner will not allow hunting. I would like it to be put on public record that I am in favor of this proposal.

Casey Rorvick
Sioux Falls South Dakota

Sent from my iPhone

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Metro unit

From: sio.midco.net, pmalcomb
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 8:22 PM
To: GFP Wild Info
Subject: Metro unit

It is about time, every year I have to go to Pierre to hunt late season and there are thousands of geese just around Sioux Falls we could be hunting. I think this is a great plan.

Thank you Pat Malcomb, Sioux Falls, SD